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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,

CHARLES A. MASON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

---

FOR THE YEAR 1938.

---

Together with the Summary of Work  
of the Sanitary Inspector.

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## Keswick Urban District Council.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1938. To comply with the request of the Ministry of Health, this is drawn up in accordance with Circular 1728, dated 25th October, 1938, and the Registrar-General's Memorandum S.D./54, received May 26th, 1938.

The Report of your Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor is appended.

I am,

Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

CHARLES A. MASON,

Medical Officer of Health.

## Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (acres) 1,272.

Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1938), 4,369

Number of inhabited houses (end 1938) according to Rate Books,  
1,384

Rateable Value, £34,236.

Sum represented by Penny Rate, £136 12s. 5d.

### Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year.

|              |                | Total | M. | F. |                                                                   |
|--------------|----------------|-------|----|----|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Live Births  | { Legitimate   | 46    | 21 | 25 | } Birth Rate (R.G.), 10·9                                         |
|              | { Illegitimate | 2     | 0  | 2  |                                                                   |
| Still Births |                | 2     | 2  | 0  | Still Birth Rate per 1,000<br>total (live and still) Births, 40·0 |

|        | Total. | M. | F. |                                                                             |
|--------|--------|----|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Deaths | 65     | 34 | 31 | Crude Deate Rate<br>(R.G.) 14·8 per 1,000 of estimated resident population. |

### Deaths from Puerperal Causes (Childbirth) :

|                        | Deaths. | Rate per 1,000 total<br>(live and still) Births. |
|------------------------|---------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Puerperal Sepsis       | 0       | nil.                                             |
| Other puerperal Causes | 0       | nil.                                             |
|                        | —       | —                                                |
| Total                  | 0       | nil.                                             |

### Death Rate of Infants under 1 year of age :—

|                                                     |      |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------|
| All infants per 1,000 live births                   | 62·5 |
| Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births | 65·2 |
| Illegitimate „ illegitimate „                       | Nil. |

|                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Deaths from Measles (all ages)    | 0 |
| „ Whooping Cough (all ages)       | 0 |
| „ Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age) | 0 |
| „ Cancer                          | 8 |

## Keswick Urban District.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

### OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1938.

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The area of the district in statute acres (land and inland water) is 1,272.

Social conditions and local industries remain as hitherto. (Unemployment figures will be seen under "Public Assistance"—post).

Meteorological Conditions.—These are shown in a report by Mr. Tom. Wilson, Official Observer to the Meteorological Office and Air Ministry, and given at the end of this report.

### POPULATION.

The Registrar-General's figure for the resident population of the district estimated to the middle of 1938, is 4,369, on which the birth and death rates, etc., are based.

(The figure for 1937 was 4,437).

(The figure for 1928 was 4,075).

(The yearly estimates of population provided by the Registrar-General are based on the adjusted last Census figures, after allowance for births, deaths and migration).

## PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.

In the Keswick Urban District, which is included in the Mid-Cumberland Guardians' Area, the number of persons in receipt of out-door relief was 46, giving a proportion of (approximately) 1 in 95 of the population.

Two persons were admitted to Public Assistance Hospital from this district during the year, giving a proportion of 1 in 2,184 of the population.

The numbers for 1938 are detailed as follows :—

| Keswick U.D. | Out-door Relief. |             | Total. | Indoor Relief |
|--------------|------------------|-------------|--------|---------------|
|              | Ordinary.        | Unemployed. |        |               |
|              | 41               | 5           | 46     | 2             |

## Vital Statistics.

## BIRTHS.

LIVE BIRTHS.—There were 48 Live Births (21 males and 27 females) registered as belonging to the district (*i.e.*, after including inward transfers and excluding outward transfers) ; of these 2 (both females) were illegitimate.

The net Live Birth Rate was accordingly 10·9 per 1000 of the population, compared with 11·9 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

|                               |     |      |
|-------------------------------|-----|------|
| Birth Rates, 1938—Cumberland  | ... | 15·9 |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland | ... | 15·2 |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland | ... | 16·8 |
| England and Wales             | ... | 15·1 |
| Keswick Urban District        | ... | 10·9 |

The Live Birth Rates for the past 10 years in the Keswick Urban District were :—

|       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Rate— | 10·9 | 11·9 | 11·1 | 10·7 | 11·8 | 10·5 | 11·6 | 12·2 | 12·2 | 16·6 |

The percentage of Illegitimate Live Births was 4·1, as compared with 3·7 in 1937.

Percentages of Illegitimate Live Births for the past 10 years were :—

|       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| % —   | 4·1  | 3·7  | 6·0  | 6·2  | 3·7  | 2·1  | 7·5  | nil. | 14·2 | 1·4  |

## CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1938.

| CAUSES OF DEATH.                              |                                                           |     |     |     | Males. | Females |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|--------|---------|
| ALL CAUSES ... ..                             |                                                           |     |     |     | 34     | 31      |
| 1                                             | Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever                             | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 2                                             | Measles                                                   | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 3                                             | Scarlet Fever                                             | ... | ..  | ... |        |         |
| 4                                             | Whooping-cough                                            | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 5                                             | Diphtheria                                                | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 6                                             | Influenza                                                 | ... | ... | ... | 1      |         |
| 7                                             | Encaphalitis Lethergica                                   | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 8                                             | Cerebro-Spinal Fever                                      | ... | ... | ... | 1      |         |
| 9                                             | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System                        | ... | ... | ... | 1      | 1       |
| 10                                            | Other tuberculous diseases                                | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 11                                            | Syphilis                                                  | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 12                                            | General Paralysis of the Insane, tabes dorsalis           | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 13                                            | Cancer, malignant disease                                 | ..  | ... | ... | 4      | 4       |
| 14                                            | Diabetes                                                  | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 15                                            | Cerebral Hæmorrhage, &c.                                  | ... | ... | ... | 2      | 3       |
| 16                                            | Heart Disease                                             | ... | ... | ... | 7      | 9       |
| 17                                            | Aneurism                                                  | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 18                                            | Other Circulatory Diseases                                | ... | ... | ... | 5      | 4       |
| 19                                            | Bronchitis                                                | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 20                                            | Pneumonia (all forms)                                     | ... | ... | ... | 4      | 1       |
| 21                                            | Other Respiratory Diseases                                | ... | ..  | ... | 1      |         |
| 22                                            | Peptic Ulcer                                              | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 23                                            | Diarrhœa, etc. (under 2 years)                            | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 24                                            | Appendicitis                                              | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 25                                            | Cirrhosis of Liver                                        | ... | ... | ... |        | 1       |
| 26                                            | Other Diseases of Liver, etc.                             | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 27                                            | Other Digestive Diseases                                  | ... | ... | ... | 1      |         |
| 28                                            | Acute and Chronic Nephritis                               | ... | ... | ... | 1      | 1       |
| 29                                            | Puerperal Sepsis                                          | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 30                                            | Other Puerperal Causes                                    | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| 31                                            | Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc. | ... | ... | ... |        | 3       |
| 32                                            | Senility                                                  | ... | ... | ... |        | 1       |
| 33                                            | Suicide                                                   | ..  | ... | ... |        |         |
| 34                                            | Other Violence                                            | ... | ... | ... | 3      | 1       |
| 35                                            | Other Defined Diseases                                    | ... | ... | ... | 3      | 2       |
| 36                                            | Causes ill-defined or unknown                             | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| Special Causes (included in No. 35 above)—    |                                                           |     |     |     |        |         |
|                                               | Small-pox                                                 | ... | ... | ..  |        |         |
|                                               | Poliomyelitis                                             | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
|                                               | Polioencephalitis                                         | ... | ..  | ... |        |         |
| Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age—Total   |                                                           |     |     |     |        | 3       |
|                                               | Legitimate                                                | ... | ... | ... |        | 3       |
|                                               | Illegitimate                                              | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| LIVE BIRTHS                                   | { TOTAL                                                   | ... | ..  | ... | 21     | 27      |
|                                               | { Legitimate                                              | ... | ... | ... | 21     | 25      |
|                                               | { Illegitimate                                            | ... | ... | ... |        | 2       |
| STILL BIRTHS                                  | { TOTAL                                                   | ... | ..  | ... | 2      |         |
|                                               | { Legitimate                                              | ... | ... | ... | 2      |         |
|                                               | { Illegitimate                                            | ... | ... | ... |        |         |
| POPULATION (for Births and Deaths)—1938—R.-G. |                                                           |     |     |     | 4,369  |         |

STILL BIRTHS.—2 still births (both legitimate) were also registered, giving a still birth rate of 0·45 per 1,000 of the population, the same as for 1937. (The rate for all England and Wales was 0·60).

The still birth rate per 1,000 total live and still births was 40·0, as compared with 36·36 for 1937.

Still birth rates per 1,000 population for past ten years ;—

|       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Rate— | ·45  | ·45  | ·66  | ·67  | ·66  | ·67  | ·65  | ·68  | ·73  | ·24  |

Still birth rates per 1,000 total live and still births for past ten years :—

|       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Rate— | 40·0 | 36·3 | 56·6 | 58·8 | 53·5 | 60·0 | 53·5 | 56·6 | 57·6 | 14·4 |

### DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered as belonging to Keswick was 65 (*i.e.*, after correcting for non-residents dying within the Keswick Urban District and for those persons whose usual residence was in Keswick dying without the town). This gives a crude death rate of 14·8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 16·9 for the previous year.

By multiplying the crude death rate figure by an adjusting factor ("The Population Handicap") supplied by the Registrar-General, the Adjusted Death Rate is arrived at, *i.e.*, the crude death rate adjusted, in so far as sex and age group components of the population are concerned, so as to make it comparable from a mortality point of view with the crude death rate of the country as a whole or with the mortality of any other local area similarly modified. (The Adjusting or Areal or Comparability Factor was ·80). The resulting adjusted death rate (see below) for Keswick will be noticed to be 3·0 below the crude death rate.

|                                   |     |        |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----|--------|-----------|
| Comparisons :—                    |     | Crude. | Adjusted. |
| Death Rates, 1938—Cumberland ...  | ... | 13·5   | 13·0      |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland ... | ... | 13·6   | 12·4      |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland...  | ... | 13·5   | 13·6      |
| England and Wales ...             | ... | 11·6   | —         |
| Keswick Urban District            | ... | 14·8   | 11·8      |

The Crude Death Rates for the past ten years in the Keswick Urban District were :—

|       |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934  | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Rate— | 14·8 | 16·9 | 15·3 | 16·7 | 14·06 | 13·4 | 12·9 | 14·7 | 19·5 | 12·9 |

(For causes of death during the year see table on page 6).

(For comparisons table of birth rates, death rates and analysis of mortality, see page 8).

### INFANTILE MORTALITY.

These were 3\* deaths (all females and legitimate) among infants under one year of age, giving an Infantile Mortality Rate of 62·5 per 1,000 births, as compared with 56·6 for 1937.

\* This figure includes inward transfers, but not outward transfers, of course.

No death occurred among illegitimate infants, so that the Illegitimate Infantile Mortality Rate for 1938 was nil per 1,000 illegitimate births, as compared with the Legitimate Infantile Mortality Rate of 65·2 per 1,000 legitimate births. These latter rates were respectively nil and 58·8 for the previous year.

Comparisons may be given as follows :—

Infantile Mortality Rates, 1938 :—

|                               |     |     |     |      |
|-------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| Cumberland                    | ... | ... | ... | 60   |
| Rural Districts of Cumberland | ... | ... | ... | 64   |
| Urban Districts of Cumberland | ... | ... | ... | 54   |
| England and Wales             | ... | ... | ... | 53   |
| Keswick Urban District        | ... | ... | ... | 62·5 |

The Infantile Mortality Rates for the past ten years in the Keswick Urban District were :—

|         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |      |      |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|
| Year—   | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931  | 1930 | 1929 |
| Deaths— | 3    | 3    | 2    | 2    | 1    | 0    | 3    | 4     | 2    | 1    |
| Rate—   | 62·5 | 56·6 | 40   | 41·4 | 18·8 | 0·00 | 56·6 | 74·07 | 40·8 | 14·7 |

Net Deaths from stated causes at various ages under one year of age :—

| Cause of Death          | under<br>...1 wk. | 1—2<br>wks. | Total<br>under<br>4 wks. | 1—3<br>mths. | 3—6<br>mths. | 6—9<br>mths. | 9—12<br>mths. | Total<br>under<br>1 year. |
|-------------------------|-------------------|-------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| Premature Birth         | .. 1              |             | 1                        |              |              |              |               | 1                         |
| Malæna Neonatorum ..    | 1                 |             | 1                        |              |              |              |               | 1                         |
| Congenital Malformation |                   | 1           |                          |              |              |              |               | 1                         |
|                         |                   |             |                          |              |              |              |               | —                         |
|                         |                   |             |                          |              |              |              |               | 3                         |

### SENILE DEATH RATE.

40 persons had attained the age of 65 years or upwards. This number represents a Senile Death Rate of 61·5 per cent. of the total deaths.

Out of the total 40 deaths :—

|                |                                                   |
|----------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 7 (5 m. 2 f.)  | persons died between the ages of 65 and 70 years. |
| 4 (2 m, 2 f.)  | „ „ „ 70 and 75 years.                            |
| 16 (7 m. 9 f.) | „ „ „ 75 and 80 years.                            |
| 12 (5 m. 7 f.) | „ „ „ 80 and 85 years.                            |
| 1 (m.)         | person „ „ 85 and 90 years.                       |

### INQUESTS, UNCERTIFIED DEATHS AND VIOLENCE.

In respect of deaths belonging to the district during the year there were 3 inquests (2 of which were held within the district). Inquests were also held within the district in respect of 2 non-residents.

No Coroner's certificates were received of cases where post-mortem. examination had been made, but no inquest held.

One death was uncertified.

**VIOLENCE.**—The death rate due to Violence (all forms) was 0·91 per 1,000 of the population in the Keswick Urban District, as compared with 0·55 for all England and Wales. Below will be seen the number of deaths from Suicide, Other Violence and the Total Violence Deaths, together with the percentages of the total deaths from all causes, and the death rates from each per 1,000 of the population :—

| 1938.           | Suicide. | Other Violence. | Total Violence. |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Deaths ...      | nil.     | 4               | 4               |
| % of all causes | nil.     | 6·15            | 6·15            |
| Death Rate ...  | nil.     | ·91             | ·91             |

The 4 Violence deaths during the year include 2 due to climbing accidents, 1 to poisoning (coal gas—accidental) and 1 to other forms of violence.

### CANCER.

Cancer proved fatal in 8 cases, as follows :—

| System.       | Primary Organ. | Males. | Females. | Years.         |
|---------------|----------------|--------|----------|----------------|
| Alimentary... | Stomach        | 1      |          | 77             |
|               | Bowel          | 2      | 2        | 31, 57, 66, 83 |
| Glandular ... | Breast         |        | 2        | 52, 63         |
|               | Prostate       | 1      |          | 70             |
|               |                | —      | —        |                |
|               |                | 4      | 4        |                |

This number corresponds to a cancer death rate of 1·8 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 2·02 in 1937.

Approximately out of every 8 deaths of persons in this district 1 was due to cancer.

The cancer deaths and death rates for the past ten years were :

|         |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|---------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year —  | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Deaths— | 8    | 9    | 5    | 9    | 7    | 6    | 17   | 6    | 13   | 9    |
| Rate —  | 1·8  | 2·02 | 1·1  | 2·01 | 2·00 | 1·3  | 3·7  | 1·2  | 3·1  | 2·19 |

### TUBERCULOSIS

(Vide also page 20).

There were 2 deaths due to Tuberculosis :—

|                        | Males. | Females. |
|------------------------|--------|----------|
| Respiratory System ... | 1      | 1        |
| Non-Pulmonary ...      | 0      | 0        |

Both of the above were of previously notified cases in this district.

The total gives a tuberculosis (all forms) death rate of 0·45 per 1,000 of the population, the same as that for 1937.

The “Consumption” (*i.e.*, Pulmonary Tuberculosis) death rate is also 0·45 per 1,000 of the population, similar to that for 1937.

The Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rates for the past ten years were :—

|       |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |
|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Year— | 1938 | 1937 | 1936 | 1935 | 1934 | 1933 | 1932 | 1931 | 1930 | 1929 |
| Rate— | ·45  | ·45  | nil. | nil. | ·22  | ·44  | ·65  | ·68  | 1·49 | ·73  |

## General Provision of Health Services in the Area.

### PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF.

1. Part-time Medical Officer of Health.
2. One Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Surveyor and Water Engineer, is a Fellow of the Chartered Surveyors' Institute (by examination), and possesses the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate and the Special Meat Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

Mr. Ronald Thompson acts as general assistant in the Surveyor's Office.

### LABORATORY WORK.

The following table shows the amount of work done in connection with the investigations of certain cases of illness during the year, 1938 :—

| Material             |     | Test applied<br>for : | Result : |      |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------------|----------|------|
|                      |     |                       | Pos.     | Neg. |
| Throat or Nose Swabs | ... | Diphtheria            | 0        | 3    |
| Sputum               | ..  | Tuberculosis          | 2        | 2    |
| Blood                | ... | Syphilis              | 0        | 2    |
| C.S. Fluid           | ... | C.S. Meningitis       | 1        | 1    |

The Cumberland Pathological Laboratory at the Cumberland Infirmary, Carlisle is mainly made use of.

Speaking generally, other particulars relating to Health Services (*e.g.*, Hospitals, Nursing, Maternity, Ambulance Facilities. etc.), remained unchanged.

## Sanitary Circumstances of the District.

### WATER SUPPLY.

This essential service has again proved satisfactory during the year. Two samples were taken for bacteriological and chemical analysis—one at the source and one from a house tap in the town. The analyst reported the water to be excellent for public supply.

REPLACEMENT OF MAIN.—About 400 yards of old 3-inch cast-iron water main were replaced by concrete lined spun iron pipes from the foot of Victoria Street to Greta Lodge. Part of the Lonsties Estate was provided with 3-inch mains together with pumping plant and a small service reservoir.

### DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

No sewer extensions were carried out in 1938. The Surveyor informs me the sewage effluent from the Outfall Works was satisfactory, and that several market gardeners and farmers continued to cart away the dried sludge for their own use, free of cost.

## CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

There are 15 houses that still have pail closets (High Briery, 9 ; Low Briery, 4 ; Lakeside, 2). By the end of the year the pail closets system at the Forge was converted into water-carriage system with a separate w.c. for each house.

## RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Greta which flows through the middle of the district remains wonderfully clear. There was no pollution of serious moment during the year. This river, in October and November, overflowed its banks, there being exceptionally heavy rainfall throughout the Lake District and also, in the latter month at any rate, an abnormal amount of water entered the river from Thirlmere lake. Flooding occurred in the neighbourhoods of Crosthwaite and Penrith Road affecting a number of nearby houses.

## SCAVENGING AND REMOVAL OF REFUSE.

The method of scavenging and removal of refuse proceeds as formerly ; collection is bi-weekly by one horse-drawn and one motor vehicle (each fitted with covers), and any day, removal is available for butchers' and fishmongers' offal for which a fee is paid to the Council.

The proper sanitary type of refuse-bin with proper lid is, it is understood, commonly in use—no householder, of course, should be without such.

The refuse tip on "The Cass" has been in use now for a number of years and is becoming so filled up that the question of the further depositing of refuse or some alternative method of dealing with it will need the attention of the Council at no far distant date.

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The sanitary inspection of the district is undertaken by Mr. J. Jenkins, who is also the Council's Surveyor and Water Engineer. He is a keen sanitarian, a willing co-operator and I have found him to have the welfare of Keswick at heart. I gratefully acknowledge here his assistance in the making of this report.

Summary supplied by the Sanitary Inspector to the Medical Officer of Health, in pursuance of Article XIX of the Sanitary Officer's Order, 1926.

|                                                         |     |     |     |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| Premises inspected during the year                      | ... | ..  | 242 |
| Nuisances or defects discovered                         | ... | ... | 209 |
| Do. do. remedied after informal notice                  | ... | ... | 186 |
| Do. do. do. statutory ,,                                | ..  | ..  | 14  |
| Housing Inspections under Public Health or Housing Acts |     |     | 194 |
| Factories Inspections                                   | ... | ... | 51  |

## FACTORIES' ACT, 1937.

This Act came into force on July 1st, 1938, and replaces the Factories and Workshops' Act, 1901, and several other enactments relating to factories and workshops. The term "workshop" is not specifically mentioned in the new Act (see below). Designed to secure safe and healthy working conditions in manufacturing and certain other operations, the Act includes provisions relating Cleanliness, Overcrowding, Temperature, Ventilation, Lighting, Drainage of Floors, Sanitary Conveniences, Washing Facilities, Water Supplies, Prevention of Accidents, Fire Escapes, Welfare, etc.

The following table shows the position in this district at the end of 1938, and it will be seen that 21 premises were registered. 51 Inspections by the Sanitary Inspector revealed 5 defects which were all remedied.

| Premises.                             | Number. | Inspections. | Defects Found. | Written Notices. | Defects Remedied. | Prosecutions. |
|---------------------------------------|---------|--------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Factories with mechanical power ...   | 7       | 22           | 1              | 1                | 1                 | —             |
| Factories without mechanical power... | 14      | 29           | 4              | 4                | 4                 | —             |
| Other Premises under the Act ...      | —       | —            | —              | —                | —                 | —             |
| Totals ...                            | 21      | 51           | 5              | 5                | 5                 | —             |

Under Section 34, two Certificates of Adequate means of Escape in case of Fire were issued during the year.

## SHOPS.

There were 156 Shops on the register, and periodical inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector. In three instances, after negotiation, necessary separate w.c. accommodation was provided.

The Shops' Act, 1934, made provision for :—

- (a) The regulation of hours for young people employed in or about the business of wholesale or retail shops, also for washing facilities and accommodation for meals where taken on the premises, etc., and
- (b) Sanitary arrangements, temperature, ventilation, etc.

So far as this area is concerned, the latter is under the administration of this authority, and the former the County Council.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND POOLS.

There are no (a) public or (b) privately owned swimming baths or pools, but a small bay of Derwentwater is used as a bathing place and a local club provides certain accommodation on the shore.

## ERADICATION OF BED BUGS.

Regarding the problem of the above, no cases have been reported, and therefore no action has been taken.

## SCHOOLS.

### SANITARY CONDITIONS AND WATER SUPPLY.

All the Keswick Schools are on the town's water supply and water-carriage sewerage system.

### RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT, 1919.

The Sanitary Inspector co-operates with officials of the County Council. Poison is available at the Council Offices free of charge. The refuse tip continues to be occasionally baited with rat poison.

It behoves the occupiers of all premises infected with rats or mice to take advantage of the facilities offered for the extermination of this vermin. In some instances nothing short of determined action to the extent of thoroughly ratproofing such premises will be of any avail.

There has been a steady demand for rat-poison the whole year round. During National Rat Week (7th—12th November) special efforts were made, including the displaying of printed posters relating to rat infestation and destruction.

## Housing.

Although housing conditions relating to working class dwellings have received considerable attention in recent years there is still a number of houses needing to be dealt with as being unfit for habitation, and overcrowding cases to be remedied. But for the slowness in the provision of further new Council houses, mainly, there would have been more representations made of unfit houses in 1938.

33 new houses were completed in this district during the year :

(a) 18 erected by the Council on the Brigham Estate on which it was previously intended to build 40 (of which 34 are now erected and tenanted and the remaining 6 are nearing completion).

(b) 15 built by private enterprise :—

|                                 |     |     |   |
|---------------------------------|-----|-----|---|
| Springs Road Area               | ... | ... | 7 |
| The Hawthorns, Penrith Road     | ... | ... | 4 |
| Blencathra Street               | ... | ... | 1 |
| Lonsties Estate, Ambleside Road | ... | ... | 1 |
| Fenton Estate                   | ... | ... | 2 |

Additional land was acquired by the Council adjacent to the present Brigham site and a scheme prepared for a further 20 houses, but this scheme was held up pending a decision of the Ministry of Transport regarding the County Council's proposed Southern by-pass road.

The following schemes, etc., relate to work done during the year :—

Beckside Cottages—Four back-to-back houses, Nos. 1 to 4, were converted into two dwelling houses and repairs carried out.

The Plosh, Nos. 14, 15 and 16—A commencement was made with re-conditioning and with conversion of Nos. 15 and 16 into one house.

Gatey's Court (house above Wilson's shop) and No. 1, Packhorse Yard—The latter was represented in 1938 ; both ceased to be habited and were converted into stores. Demolition of ten houses in Gatey's Court took place in pursuance of a 1935 Clearance Order.

Main Street, Nos. 59 and 61, and Museum Square, Nos. 7 & 9—Representations were made for these houses which, afterwards, ceased to be used as dwellings. A scheme for part demolition and conversion into a shop and garages was approved by the Council and the work is proceeding.

Main Street, Nos. 94, 96 and 98—Each provided with additions, including bathrooms, sculleries and w.c's.

Forge Cottages—Eight houses, Nos. 1 to 8 inclusive, were re-conditioned and made into five good houses. Nos. 9 to 12, inclusive, were also re-conditioned.

Atkinson's Court, Nos. 1, 2 and 3—Representations were made for these three houses, which then ceased to be used as dwellings, and an undertaking accepted for them not to be re-let. An improvement scheme is expected at a later date.

Brigham Row, Nos. 11, 12 and 13—These three houses were represented, and afterwards they ceased to be used as dwellings ; the Council agreed to a proposal by the owners that a comprehensive scheme for their conversion, together with other property in the vicinity, should be prepared. No such plans were received.

Police Court Yard, Nos. 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12—These ten houses were represented to the Council for clearance. No definite action was taken pending the Ministry of Transport's decision regarding the by-pass road mentioned above.

Dover's Court, No. 2—Representation was made and undertaking accepted for the house not to be re-let. When the house is vacated the owner is expected to incorporate it with his own residence adjoining.

Leonard's Place, Nos. 2 and 3—Representations were made and undertaking accepted for these houses not to be re-let for human habitation. The tenants were re-housed in Council houses.

James' Court, Nos. 1, 2 and 7—After representations and undertaking accepted previous to 1938, a scheme this year was carried out which included the demolition of one of the houses and the conversion of the other two into one house.

King's Head Yard, Nos. 1, 3, 4, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18 and 20—This property was gutted and converted into stores during the year (these houses had been dealt with in 1936 as individually unfit).

## HOUSING (Rural Workers') ACT, 1926.

This temporary Act. which was due to expire 24th June, 1938, has been extended to 30th September, 1942.

Excellent opportunities are available under this Act (by way of grants and/or loans—see below) which can help owners with schemes of reconditioning and improvements to working-class house property, thus saving it from possible condemnation and demolition.

Financial assistance from the County Council (the Authority primarily responsible for the administration of the Act), can be obtained for the re-conditioning of existing houses or the conversion of buildings into houses for agricultural labourers and those of similar economic standing. Such assistance can be provided by grants and/or loans to owners willing to carry out approved works, such as :—

- (a) Structural alterations.
- (b) Additions.
- (c) Provision of Water Supply.
- (d) Drainage.
- (e) Sanitary conveniences and other like works.
- (f) Such other works as the County Council may deem to fall within the scope of the Act.

The schemes relating to Becksid Cottages, The Plosh and Forge Cottages (1 to 8) referred to above, were carried out under this Act, and the respective owners given substantial grants in aid.

## Housing Appendix.

(in accordance with Circular 1728 Ministry of Health, 25th Oct., 1938).

### STATISTICS.

#### 1.—Inspection of Dwelling-houses during the year :—

|                                                                                                                                                                    |     |     |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| (1) (a) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)...                                                     | ..  | ... | 148 |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | 194 |
| (2) (a) Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932  | ... | ... | 52  |
| (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose                                                                                                                     | ... | ... | 138 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation...                                    | ... | ... | 38  |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | ..  | ... | 14  |

#### 2.—Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal Notices :—

|                                                                                                                             |     |     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | ... | ... | 32 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|----|

#### 3.—Action under Statutory Powers during the year :—

|                                                                                         |     |     |     |     |    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|
| (a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16, of the Housing Act, 1936—                  |     |     |     |     |    |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs | ... | ... | ... | ... | 10 |

|                                                                                                                                                                  |     |     |     |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|------|
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—                                                                         |     |     |     |      |
| (a) By owners                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 9    |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..                                                                                                                    | ..  |     |     | 0    |
| (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts—                                                                                                                        |     |     |     |      |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied                                                           | ... | ... | ... | 24   |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—                                                                  |     |     |     |      |
| (a) By owners                                                                                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 19   |
| (b) By Local Authority in default of owners..                                                                                                                    | ... |     |     | 0    |
| (c) Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936—                                                                                                |     |     |     |      |
| (1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made                                                                                    | ... | ... | ... | 0    |
| (2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders                                                                                       | ... | ... | ... | 0    |
| (d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 —                                                                                                      |     |     |     |      |
| (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made                                                               | ... | ... | ... | 0    |
| (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit          | ... | ... | ... | 0    |
| 4.—Housing Act, 1936, Part iv.—Overcrowding :—                                                                                                                   |     |     |     |      |
| (a) (i.) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year...                                                                                                       | ... |     |     | 13   |
| (ii.) Number of families dwelling therein                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 14   |
| (iii.) Number of persons dwelling therein                                                                                                                        | ... | ... | ... | 80   |
| (b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during year                                                                                                     | ... |     |     | 0    |
| (c) (i.) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year                                                                                                    | ... |     |     | 3    |
| (ii.) Number of persons concerned in such cases                                                                                                                  | ... | ... | ... | 22   |
| (d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding | ... | ... | ... | nil. |
| (e) Any other particulars with respect to overcrowded conditions—                                                                                                |     |     |     |      |

The Ministry of Health fixed January 1st, 1937, as the “Appointed Day” in the Urban District of Keswick, after which any new case of overcrowding (with defined exceptions) would be an offence. From that date it has been the duty of an owner of a working-class dwelling to place in the rent book or similar document a summary of the provisions of the Act relating to offences, and also a statement of the number of persons permitted to sleep in the house. These particulars have to be obtained from the local authority. It is understood the Act has been and is being complied with in these respects.

## Inspection and supervision of Food.

### MILK SUPPLY.

There were 6 registered milk-sellers whose premises were within the Urban District, all being producers and retailers. Inspections are made periodically. (At the time of writing one producer is proposing to erect a large up-to-date byre capable of housing 48 dairy cows).

A large quantity of the town's milk supply is retailed by producers and retailers whose premises are situated in the surrounding Rural District. There were 11 of such producers and retailers during 1938.

The following table gives the results of 22 samples of milk retailed in the town and taken by the Sanitary Inspector, and submitted for bacteriological examination to the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory, Carlisle.

Of the above 22 samples, 8 were satisfactory and 14 unsatisfactory in relation to dirt contamination, as follows :—

|                                        | Satisfactory<br>according to<br>Accredited<br>Standard † | Unsatisfactory<br>according to<br>Accredited<br>Standard † | Total    |
|----------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Samples produced in Urban District ... | 4                                                        | 8                                                          | 12       |
| „ „ outside „ ...                      | 4                                                        | 6                                                          | 10       |
|                                        | <hr/> 8                                                  | <hr/> 14                                                   | <hr/> 22 |

The 14 unsatisfactory samples comprised :—

12 failing the Methylene Blue Reduction test only ;

1 „ B. Coli test only (*i.e.*, showing B. Coli in 2  
or 3 tubes out of 3), and

1 „ Combined test.

(Four of these were borderline cases).

All samples tested for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli proved negative.

On a sample of milk being reported as tubercular, investigation is made by veterinary officials of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. I am kindly informed by Mr. John Cameron, Divisional Inspector of that Authority, that in so far as the Urban District of Keswick was concerned, no cows were slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1925, during the year under review.

The Milk (Special Designations) Order, 1936, came into force on June 1st, revoked the Milk (Special Designations) Orders of 1923 and 1934, and substituted for the old designations (Grade A, etc.), the following :—

Tuberculin Tested Milk (this milk may be pasteurised and is then described as “Tuberculin Tested Milk Pasteurised”),

Accredited Milk,  
Pasteurised Milk.

Certain conditions must be complied with before licences can be granted to producers and dealers.

The only milk sold under “Special Designation” in the Keswick Urban District is by Storms Dairy, Ltd., retailers of Tuberculin Tested Milk.

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

SLAUGHTER-HOUSES.—There are still 4 private slaughter-houses (1 registered and 3 licensed) ; one of them accommodates 3 different butchers. Frequent inspections are made by the Sanitary Inspector.

The number of carcasses inspected and condemned is given in the table below.

In the Keswick Urban District there are 14 slaughtermen licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

BAKEHOUSES.—In this district there were 7 in 1938 ; these were occasionally inspected and generally found in cleanly condition.

### CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

|                                                                                              |     | Cattle<br>excluding<br>Cows. | Cows. | Calves. | Sheep<br>and<br>Lambs. | Pigs. |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|------------------------------|-------|---------|------------------------|-------|
| Number killed (if known) ...                                                                 | ... | 320                          | 0     | 60      | 3200                   | 300   |
| Number inspected ...                                                                         | ... | 265                          | 0     | 25      | 2210                   | 142   |
| ALL DISEASES EXCEPT<br>TUBERCULOSIS—                                                         |     |                              |       |         |                        |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned ...                                                                | ... | 0                            | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 0     |
| Carcasses of which some part or<br>organ was condemned ...                                   | ... | 8                            | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 0     |
| Percentage of the number inspec-<br>ted affected with disease<br>other than tuberculosis ... | ... | 3'0                          | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 0     |
| TUBERCULOSIS ONLY—                                                                           |     |                              |       |         |                        |       |
| Whole carcasses condemned ..                                                                 | ..  | 2                            | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 1     |
| Carcasses of which some part or<br>organ was condemned ...                                   | ... | 0                            | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 0     |
| Percentage of the number inspec-<br>ted affected with tuberculosis                           |     | 75                           | 0     | 0       | 0                      | 70    |

## Prevalence of, and Control over, Infectious Diseases.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES. The total number of Infectious Diseases notified during 1938, in the Keswick Urban District (including Pulmonary and other forms of Tuberculosis, Pneumonia, Ophthalmia Neonatorum, Encaphalitis Lethargica, Poliomyelitis, and Cerebro-spinal Fever) was 10.

Seven out of the ten were tubercular cases.

### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES, 1938.

| Disease.                      |             | Total cases<br>notified. | Cases notified<br>1938 admitted<br>to Hospital. | Deaths. |
|-------------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Diphtheria ...                | ...         | 0 (1937—0)               | 0                                               | 0       |
| Scarlet Fever ...             | ...         | 0 (1937—3)               | 0                                               | 0       |
| Pneumonia (all forms) ...     | ...         | 1                        | 0                                               | 1       |
| Erysipelas ..                 | ...         | 1 (1937—0)               | 0                                               | 0       |
| Cerebro-spinal Meningitis ... | ...         | 1                        | 0                                               | 1       |
| Tuberculosis :—               |             |                          |                                                 |         |
| Pulmonary                     | { Males ... | 1                        | 0                                               | 1       |
|                               | { Females   | 3                        | 2 (San.)                                        | 0       |
|                               | { Total     | 4                        | 2 „                                             | 1       |
| Non-Pulmonary                 | { Males ... | 1                        | 1 „                                             | 0       |
|                               | { Females   | 2                        | 0                                               | 0       |
|                               | { Total     | 3                        | 1                                               | 0       |

Table showing monthly incidence of notifiable Diseases, 1938 :

| Disease.        | Jan. | Feb. | Mar. | Apr. | May. | June. | July. | Aug. | Sept. | Oct. | Nov. | Dec. | Total |
|-----------------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|-------|------|-------|------|------|------|-------|
| Tuberculosis :  |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |      |      |      |       |
| Pulmonary ...   | I    |      |      |      |      |       | I     | I    |       | I    |      |      | 4     |
| Other Forms ... |      |      | I    | I    |      | I     |       |      |       |      |      |      | 3     |
| Cerebro-spinal  |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       |      |      |      |       |
| Meningitis...   |      |      |      |      |      |       | I     |      |       |      |      |      | I     |
| Pneumonia ...   |      |      |      |      |      |       | I     |      |       |      |      |      | I     |
| Erysipelas ...  |      |      |      |      |      |       |       |      |       | I    |      |      | I     |

From notifications received it is deduced that approximately one in every 437 persons in this district contracted a disease notifiable under the Infectious Diseases Notification Act (Chicken-pox excluded) and the Tuberculosis Regulations. (Last year's figure, 1 in 555, and in 1928 it was 1 in 177).

There were no cases of Diphtheria or Scarlet Fever during 1938. Comparison case and death rates are given as follows :—

Scarlet Fever—The case rate and death rate per 1,000 of the population were both nil, as compared with .67 (three cases) and nil, respectively, for 1937. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1938) were 2.41 and .01.

Diphtheria—The case rate and death rate were both nil—the same as for the two previous years. The corresponding rates for all England and Wales (1938) were 1.58 and .07. No Dick Tests or general immunisation scheme has been carried out.

No case of Puerperal Pyrexia was recorded. The case rate for this disease (including Puerperal Fever) is better expressed in relation to the number of births registered than to the population. When calculated on this basis the rate is :—Puerperal Pyrexia, nil per 1,000 total births (*i.e.*, live and still births) registered during the year—the same as for the previous seven years. The corresponding rate (1938) for England and Wales was 14.42.

No maternal death occurred—corresponding, therefore to a Maternal Mortality Rate of nil per 1,000 total (live and still births)—the same as in 1937. In fact, there have only been two maternal deaths (*i.e.*, of women dying in, or in consequence of child birth) in the past ten years, *viz.*, in 1931. The rate (1938) for England and Wales was 2.97 (all causes).

PNEUMONIA.—One notification was received. The deaths from Pneumonia (all forms) numbered 5.

A sporadic case of Cerebro-spinal Meningitis was notified which, unfortunately, rapidly proved fatal.

There were no notifications of typhoid (including Para-typhoid) Fever, Poliomyelitis, Enccephalitis Lethergica, or Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

TUBERCULOSIS.—Under the Tuberculosis Regulations, 4 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis (1 male and 3 females) and 3 of other forms of Tuberculosis (1 male and 2 females) were notified.

Of these cases—notified during the year—2 pulmonary and 1

non-pulmonary were admitted to Sanatorium. One (pulmonary) case notified previous to 1938 was re-admitted to Sanatorium.

The following table gives the number of New Cases and Mortality (all cases) during 1938 :—

| Age.            | New Cases    |    |                  |    | Deaths.      |    |                  |    |
|-----------------|--------------|----|------------------|----|--------------|----|------------------|----|
|                 | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    | Respiratory. |    | Non-Respiratory. |    |
|                 | M.           | F. | M.               | F. | M.           | F. | M.               | F. |
| Under 1 year    | ...          | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 1—5             | ...          | —  | 1                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 5—10            | ...          | —  | —                | 1  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 10—15           | ...          | —  | —                | 1  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 15—20           | ...          | 1  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 20—25           | ...          | 1  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 25—35           | ...          | 1  | —                | —  | —            | 1  | —                | —  |
| 34—45           | ...          | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 45—55           | ...          | 1  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 55—65           | ...          | —  | —                | —  | —            | —  | —                | —  |
| 65 —and upwards | ...          | —  | —                | —  | 1            | —  | —                | —  |
| Totals          | ..           | 1  | 3                | 1  | 2            | 1  | 1                | 0  |

A statement regarding the total deaths from Tuberculosis will be found on page 9.

The number of cases on the Tuberculosis Register at the end of 1938, was as follows :—

|               | Males. | Females. | Total. |
|---------------|--------|----------|--------|
| Pulmonary     | 6      | 6        | 12     |
| Non-pulmonary | 3      | 9        | 12     |
| All Cases     | 9      | 15       | 24     |

No action has been required to be taken under the Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925, which relates to powers regarding persons suffering from Tuberculosis of the respiratory tract, and in an infectious state, and employed in connexion with a dairy or the handling of milk or milk vessels.

With reference to the Public Health Act, 1925, Section 62, regarding compulsory removal to hospital or institution, no action has been taken.

The following is a comparison table of Infectious Diseases notified during the past ten years :—

| Disease.             | 1938. | 1937. | 1936. | 1935. | 1934. | 1933. | 1932. | 1931. | 1930. | 1929. |
|----------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Diphtheria           | ...   |       |       | 1     | 2     | 7     |       | 5     | 3     | 2     |
| Scarlet Fever        | ...   | 3     | 1     | 9     | 5     | 1     | 2     | 1     |       | 2     |
| Puerperal Pyrexia... |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 1     |       |
| Pneumonia            | ...   | 1     | 3     | 7     | 5     | 4     | 8     | 8     | 10    | 2     |
| Erysipelas           | ...   | 1     |       | 3     | 1     | 2     | 3     | 3     | 4     | 1     |
| Ophthalmia           |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Neonatorum..         |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 1     |
| C.-S. Meningitis     | ...   | 1     |       |       |       |       |       |       |       | 1     |
| Tuberculosis :—      |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |       |
| Pulmonary            | ...   | 4     | 4     | 1     | 4     | 2     | 8     | 4     | 5     | 13    |
| Other Forms...       |       | 3     |       | 1     | 2     |       |       |       |       | 5     |

NON-NOTIFIABLE ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.—Epidemics usually occur in conjunction with epidemics in the districts adjoining.

Influenza, towards the end of the year, was prevalent, though one death occurred in May ; this death gave an influenza death rate of 0·22 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 4 deaths recorded and a death rate of ·90 in 1937. (The rate, 1938, for all England and Wales was ·11).

It is worth while noting that there has been no death from either Measles or Whooping Cough, in the past ten years at any rate.

There were no school closures due to epidemic disease during the year.

## METEOROLOGICAL STATION.

Height above Sea Level, 254 feet. Lat. 54° 36' N. Long. 3° 9' W.

### RETURNS FOR 1938.

|       | RAINFALL.          |       |                              |                     | SUNSHINE.         |       |                      |
|-------|--------------------|-------|------------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------|----------------------|
|       | AMOUNT.<br>Inches. | DAYS  | GREATEST FALL<br>ON ONE DAY. | Average<br>36 years | AMOUNT.<br>HOURS. | DAYS. | Average<br>36 years. |
| Jan.  | 7·55               | on 22 | 1·31 on 14th                 | 6·47                | 17·1              | on 13 | 34·8                 |
| Feb.  | 2·37               | „ 12  | ·75 „ 25th                   | 4·56                | 72·0              | „ 21  | 54·0                 |
| Mar.  | 3·56               | „ 13  | 1·08 „ 19th                  | 4·00                | 90·4              | „ 22  | 97·7                 |
| Apl.  | ·53                | „ 2   | ·47 „ 2nd                    | 2·95                | 188·6             | „ 26  | 130·4                |
| May   | 3·83               | „ 16  | ·40 16th 26th                | 3·24                | 175·8             | „ 23  | 175·8                |
| June  | 8·52               | „ 18  | 2·29 on 1st                  | 3·24                | 151·2             | „ 26  | 177·9                |
| July  | 6·74               | „ 22  | 2·16 „ 29th                  | 4·22                | 104·8             | „ 28  | 160·6                |
| Aug.  | 2·96               | „ 14  | ·50 „ 17th                   | 4·98                | 171·4             | „ 29  | 142·6                |
| Sept. | 3·66               | „ 15  | 1·26 „ 17th                  | 4·34                | 97·5              | „ 24  | 126·1                |
| Oct.  | 16·99              | „ 24  | 2·96 „ 3rd                   | 6·79                | 59·5              | „ 23  | 80·1                 |
| Nov.  | 11·33              | „ 22  | 3·37 „ 12th                  | 5·56                | 26·7              | „ 21  | 25·7                 |
| Dec.  | 5·31               | „ 21  | 1·07 „ 4th                   | 6·63                | 28·8              | „ 14  | 25·5                 |
|       | 73·35              | „ 201 |                              | 56·96               | 1183·8            | „ 270 | 1285·1               |

## TEMPERATURES.

|       | HIGHEST<br>MAXIMUM<br>(in screen). | LOWEST<br>MAXIMUM<br>(in screen). | LOWEST<br>MINIMUM<br>(on grass). | Nights<br>Frost. | Wind<br>at gale<br>force. | Snow<br>lying. |
|-------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| Jan.  | 55·0 on 20th                       | 25·0 on 11th                      | 23·0 on 11th                     | 12               | 1                         | —              |
| Feb.  | 55·0 „ 27th                        | 26·0 „ 21st                       | 20·0 „ 21, 22                    | 15               | —                         | —              |
| Mar.  | 62·0 „ 13th                        | 28·0 „ 8th                        | 25·0 „ 8th                       | 5                | —                         | —              |
| Apl.  | 59·0 „ 12th                        | 25·0 „ 18th                       | 19·0 „ 18th                      | 17               | —                         | —              |
| May   | 64·0 „ 21st                        | 29·0 „ 8th                        | 22·0 „ 8th                       | 10               | —                         | —              |
| June  | 70·0 „ 18th                        | 38·0 „ 23rd                       | 33·0 „ 23rd                      | —                | —                         | —              |
| July  | 71·0 „ 22nd                        | 39·0 „ 2nd                        | 33·0 „ 2nd                       | —                | —                         | —              |
| Aug.  | 80·0 „ 11th                        | 41·0 „ 29th                       | 32·0 „ 29th                      | —                | —                         | —              |
| Sept. | 69·0 „ 13th                        | 39·0 „ 15th                       | 28·0 „ 15th                      | 3                | —                         | —              |
| Oct.  | 64·0 „ 13th                        | 33·0 „ 26th                       | 26·0 „ 26th                      | 3                | 3                         | —              |
| Nov.  | 66·0 „ 12th                        | 32·0 „ 21, 22                     | 24·0 „ 21st                      | 3                | 1                         | —              |
| Dec.  | 55·0 „ 11th                        | 23·0 „ 21st                       | 15·0 „ 20th                      | 13               | —                         | 3              |
|       |                                    |                                   |                                  | 81               | 5                         | 3              |

## WIND.

## EARTH TEMPERATURES

|       | Calm. | North<br>Quadrant. | South<br>Quadrant. | East<br>Quadrant. | West<br>Quadrant. | Highest, 1ft. | Lowest, 1ft. | Highest, 4ft. | Lowest, 4ft. |
|-------|-------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Jan.  | 6     | —                  | 14                 | 3                 | 8                 | 44·0          | 37·0         | 44·9          | 43·0         |
| Feb.  | 5     | 7                  | 3                  | 5                 | 8                 | 43·5          | 37·2         | 43·7          | 42·4         |
| Mar.  | 5     | 1                  | 10                 | 2                 | 13                | 48·5          | 42·0         | 45·8          | 42·5         |
| Apl.  | 10    | 14                 | 1                  | —                 | 5                 | 49·2          | 45·2         | 47·5          | 45·7         |
| May   | 4     | 5                  | 11                 | 8                 | 3                 | 43·3          | 47·0         | 50·5          | 45·5         |
| June  | 6     | 2                  | 10                 | —                 | 12                | 59·0          | 50·7         | 54·0          | 50·5         |
| July  | 9     | —                  | 9                  | 1                 | 12                | 61·1          | 56·0         | 56·0          | 54·0         |
| Aug.  | 17    | —                  | 5                  | 2                 | 7                 | 64·7          | 57·5         | 58·3          | 56·5         |
| Sept. | 16    | 3                  | 9                  | —                 | 2                 | 58·5          | 55·0         | 57·5          | 55·2         |
| Oct.  | 6     | 2                  | 5                  | —                 | 18                | 56·2          | 47·5         | 56·5          | 52·6         |
| Nov.  | 3     | —                  | 10                 | 2                 | 15                | 53·1          | 43·0         | 52·1          | 50·0         |
| Dec.  | 5     | 3                  | 12                 | 2                 | 9                 | 45·3          | 36·5         | 49·5          | 47·5         |
|       | 92    | 37                 | 99                 | 25                | 112               |               |              |               |              |

## ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION.

November 2nd and 3rd, 1931, 6·61 inches in 36 hours.  
 November 3rd, 1931, 4·86 „  
 November 12th, 1938, 3·37 „  
 November 4th, 1926, 3·32 „ in 9½ hours  
 December 24th, 1925, 3·50 „  
 August 2nd, 1923, 3·00 „  
 July 13th, 1932, 2·56 „ in 5 hours  
 December 2nd, 1902, 3·12 „

## SUNDRY NOTES.

Thunder heard, 9 days.

Lightning observed, 10 days.

Thunderstorm with precipitation, 5 days.

Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 1 day.

More than 1 inch of rain on one day, 16 days.

„ 2 „ „ 6 days.

„ 3 „ „ 1 day.

Warmest day, August 11th, 82·0.

Coldest nights, December 20th and 21st, 15·0.

## THE WEATHER OF 1938.

1938 has been an extraordinary year, an early drought, wet summer months with floods, and the tremendous rainfall of October, together with the strong winds during the latter half of the year.

The year's rainfall of 73·35 inches is very high, and bears comparison with the other wet years. 1792, 84·64 inches ; 1852, 79·95 inches ; 1903, 76·99 inches ; 1891, 75·93 inches.

In spite of the drought of April and May, grass crops were good, though there was some difficulty in housing owing to the wet July, while a flood on the 29th of that month covered many of the low-lying pastures with water when hay was ready for carting. It is many years since we experienced so many floods.

Salmon ran freely and reached the smaller streams without difficulty. The Bees worked hard with only fair results.

The gardens were battered too often with wind and rain to give their best.

**JANUARY** A fairly wet month with frost on 12 nights. The Aurora was vivid on the 25th. The end of the month gave us hail showers and a gale.

**FEBRUARY** Gave us a cold spell from the 10th to the 24th and little rain. A starling's nest with three eggs (new laid) at the Bobbin Mill was deserted owing to the untimely effort and over-admiration by too many interested or curious persons.

**MARCH** Gave us a dry spell to the 14th, then showers.

**APRIL** Was very fine and dry, rain fell on only two days and the amounts were small.

**MAY** The dry spell continued until the 10th. Lake levels fell to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch below 1887,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches below 1827. The rest of the month was showery.

- JUNE** Our finest month was disappointing. It commenced with two real wet days, 2·29 inches on the 1st and 1·00 on the 2nd. A fine week in the middle of the month gave way to another wet spell. During a period of 24 consecutive hours on the 1st and 2nd, 3·39 inches was measured.
- JULY** Was similar to June, and gave us a flood on the eve of Bank Holiday. This was made known to the world by the Daily Press, with disastrous results to those who cater for visitors.
- AUGUST** Usually a most unreasonable month was the best of the summer months, long fine days and very warm at times. The warmest day reached 80·0 in the shade.
- SEPTEMBER** Though showery was a nice month.
- OCTOBER** Will go down in history as "October, 1938." The rainfall was higher than any single month on record, 17 inches. There were 6 days with more than 1 inch and 2 days with more than 2 inches of rain. There were floods on the 2nd and 3rd, and from the 5th to the 9th. Wind reached gale force on three days. The main road from Greta Bridge to the Long Bridge at Portinscale was under water, while water was pouring over the river banks in the Park, and Crosthwaite Road to Greta Bridge. It appears that some responsible body (whoever it may be) must give serious consideration to the River Greta from a point near Greta Hall to Greta Bridge, otherwise some flood in the near future may do considerable damage with probable loss of life. The normal flood water course has been blocked and much gravel has been allowed to accumulate in the bed of the river. The flood course from Bullfield Corner to Stormwater Bridge, via the Crossings Bridge, is unable to take away its share of flood water. With the multiplicity of Boards, Councils and Committees, the responsibility is passed from one to another, and no action is taken.
- DECEMBER** A fairly seasonable month. We missed the gales and violent snowstorms which raged in the sunny south. We had only a slight covering, though the Daily Press insisted we were in a serious position, that villages were in danger of being isolated and snowed up over Christmas. Yet the children were unable to find enough snow to make a snowball.

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Observer to K.U.D.C. and Air Ministry.



